(d) the number of Scheduled Tribe families in Madhya Pradesh living below the poverty line as on the 31st of March, 2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM) : (a) The total population of Scheduled Tribes in the State of Madhya Pradesh (including Chattisgarh) according to Census conducted in 1981 and 1991 is 1,19,87,031 and 1,53,99,034 respectively.

(b) The number of households with Scheduled Tribe members as per 1981 and 1991 Census are 21,98,276 and 28,54,791 respectively.

(c) As per reports received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh 2,34,481 Scheduled Tribe families were economically assisted during 2000-2001 under various poverty alleviation schemes/programmes.

(d) As per survey conducted by State Government during 1991-92 the number of Scheduled Tribe families in Madhya Pradesh living below the poverty line was 17,91,904.

Disappearance of Kamara Tribe in Orissa

2253. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kamara Tribe which inhabits the forest of western part of Orissa is about to disappear due to poverty and diseases;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Kamaras were not listed as a tribe by Government as a result of which they were deprived of the special rights and privileges granted to the tribes in the country; and

(c) if so, the action taken so far in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM) : (a) to (c) The programmes and the schemes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are meant for development and welfare of Scheduled Tribes. The Kamara community of Orissa has not been identified as a Scheduled Tribe. Therefore, its members are not entitled to avail benefits available to Scheduled Tribes.

News-item, "Adivasi Youth to go on the offensive"

2254. SHRI BRATIN SEN GUPTA : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Adivasi Youth to go on the offensive", which appeared in the Hindu, dated the 3rd September, 2001;

(b) whether the Adivasis who constitute one per cent of the Kerala Population are the worst hit section of the people; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The matter reported is about the allegedly negligent attitude of the State Government regarding the reported starvation deaths in the State.

A Central Sector Scheme for setting up of village grain banks in tribal villages was launched in 1996-97 in selected areas out of the areas identified by Central Planning Committee (CPC) for preventive measures against death of tribal people by providing a safe-guard against fall in nutritional standards. The scheme provides that villagers in identified areas can form a committee and set up grain banks in villages. This Ministry provides one time 100% grant for setting up grain banks @ 100 Kg of locally consumed food grains per family. The members can borrow from this bank in time of need and repay after harvest and getting income as wages. Under the schemes, funds are released to the State Governments through Tribal Cooperative maketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED). 16 Blocks of 5 districts in Kerala have been indetified by CPC. However, the list is only indicative and not exhaustive funds released by TRIFED to the State Government of Kerala for the grain banks and the number of the Grain Banks established since 1996-97 are as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	Year	No. sanctioned	No. of families to be benefited	Amount released	No. set up
Kerala	1996-97	2	200	1.28	2
	1997-98	3	300	1.92	3
	2000-01	3	1674	10.16	Report yet to be received
	TOTAL	8	2174	13.36	5

All State governments including Kerala have been asked to take advantage of the scheme.